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PATENT

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants: Karandikar et al. Atty. Docket No.: M-102-A  
Serial No.: 10/073,818 Group Art Unit: 2164  
Filed: February 11, 2002 Examiner:  
Title: Low Expansion Metal-Ceramic Composite Bodies, and Methods for Making Same

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Sir:

Prior to examining the above-identified patent application on the merits, please amend the application as follows:

In the claims:

✓ ✓  
Please cancel pending claims 5a, 6 and 11a without prejudice or disclaimer to the subject matter contained therein.

Please add new claims 33-46 as follows:

34 33 (New). The composite body of claim 5, wherein said matrix phase comprises at least one metal other than silicon.

35 34 (New). The composite body of claim 33, wherein said at least one metal comprises aluminum.

31 35 (New). The composite body of claim 5, wherein said SiC of said matrix phase comprises about 1%-5% of said composite body.